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Remarks

Thorough examination and careful review of the application by the Examiner is noted and appreciated.

Claims 1-20 are pending in the application.

Claims 5-8,12,16 and 19 are objected to.

Claims 1-4,9-11,13-15,17-18 and 20 stand rejected.

The indication by the Examiner that claims 5-8, 12, 16 and 19 are objected to as being dependant upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims is further acknowledged and appreciated.

Objections to the Specification

The disclosure is objected to for numerous informalities.

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The specifications have been corrected to alleviate the
Examiners objections.

Objections to the Claims

Claims 2,4,6,8,10,14 and 18 are objected to for
numerous informalities.

Claims 2,4,6,8,10,14 and 18 have been amended to overcome
the Examiners objections.

Claim Rejections under 35 USC Section 102

Claims 1 and 3 are rejected under 35 USC Section 102(b) as
being anticipated by Naarnmann et al'291.

Independent claim 1 has been amended to further recite the
limitations contained in dependant claim 5, which the Examiner
has indicated would be allowable if rewritten into independent
form. The newly amended independent claim 1 is therefore
equivalent to claim 5 being rewritten into independent form to
include all the limitations contained in the base claim 1.

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The Applicants therefore respectfully submit that the newly amended independent claim 1, and claim 3 which depends on claim 1 are now in condition for allowance. A reconsideration for allowance of these claims is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Claims 9 and 11 are rejected under 35 USC Section 102(b) as being anticipated by Naarmann et al '291.

Independent claim 9 has been amended to further recite the limitations contained in dependant claim 12, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. The newly amended independent claim 9 is therefore equivalent to claim 12 being rewritten into independent form to include all the limitations contained in base claim 9. A reconsideration for allowance of the newly amended independent claim 9, and claim 11 which depends on claim 9 is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

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Claim Rejections under 35 USC Section 103

Claims 2 and 4 are rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a) as being unpatentable under Naarmann et al and further in view of Hamnett et al '434.

Claims 2 and 4 depend on the newly amended independent claim 1 directly, or indirectly. Since independent claim 1 is now in condition for allowance, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 2 and 4 are likewise allowable. A reconsideration for allowance of claims 2 and 4 under 35 USC Section 103(a) is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Claim 10 is rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over Naamann et al and further in view of Hamnett et al '434.

Claim 10 depends on the newly amended independent claim 9. Independent claim 9 has been amended to further recite the limitations contained in dependent claim 12, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten into independent

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form. The newly amended independent claim 9, and likewise its dependant claim 10 are now in condition for allowance. A reconsideration for claim 10 under 35 USC Section 103(a) is therefore respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a) as unpatentable over JP'092.

Claim 1 has been amended and the Applicants have shown that it is now allowable. claims 2-4 depend directly or indirectly on independent claim 1. A reconsideration for allowance of claims 1-4 under 35 USC Section 103(a) is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Claims 9-11 and 13-15 are rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP'092.

Claims 10-11 and 13-15 depend on the newly amended independent claim 9 directly or indirectly. Since the Applicants have shown that the newly amended independent claim 9 is allowable, the Applicants respectfully submit that dependent

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claims 10-11 and 13-15 are likewise allowable. A reconsideration for allowance for these claims under 35 USC Section 103(a) is respectfully requested of the Examiner.

Claims 17-18 and 20 are rejected under 35 USC Section 103(a) as being unpatentable over JP'092.

Independent claim 17 has been amended to further recite the limitations contained in dependant claim 19, which the Examiner has indicated would be allowable if rewritten into independent form. The newly amended independent claim 17 is therefore equivalent to dependant claim 19 been rewritten into independent form to include all limitations contained in independent claim 17. A reconsideration for allowance of the newly amended independent claim 17 is therefore respectfully requested of the Examiner.


Dependant claims 18 and 20 depend on the newly amended independent claim 17, and therefore are likewise allowable. A reconsideration for allowance of these two claims is therefore requested of the Examiner.

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Based on the foregoing, the Applicants respectfully submit that all the pending claims, i.e. claim 1-4, 6-11, 13-15, 17-18 and 20 are now in condition for allowance. Such favorable action by the Examiner at an early date is respectfully solicited.

In the event that the present invention as claimed is not in a condition for allowance for any other reasons, the Examiner is respectfully invited to call the Applicants' representative at this Bloomfield Hills, Michigan office at (248) 540-4040 such that necessary action may be taken to place the application in a condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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